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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Charles J. Alpert et al.  
Assignee: International Business Machines Corporation  
Title: HYBRID QUADRATIC PLACEMENT WITH MULTIPLE LINEAR  
SYSTEM SOLVERS  
Serial No.: 10/687,246 Filing Date: October 16, 2003  
Examiner: V. Siek Group Art Unit: 2825  
Docket No.: AUS920030652US1

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Austin, Texas  
July 26, 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Mail Stop Amendment  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT A UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action dated April 26, 2005, having a shortened statutory period expiring July 26, 2005. No extension of time is believed to be required to respond to the Action; however, in the event any extension of time is required, please consider that extension requested and please charge any associated fee, and any additional required fees, to deposit account number 50-2053. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.